Communiqué

23 February 2016

The Victorian Pharmacy Authority (the Authority) met on 9 February 2016 at the Authority offices.

This communiqué from the Authority contains a summary of recent Panel Hearings.

Panel Hearings

During January, three Panel Hearings were held into allegations that licensees had failed to meet their responsibilities.

Panel Hearing deficiencies and outcomes are summarised below.

Case 1.

The proprietor was found to have failed to comply with the Act and/or there was a failure of good pharmaceutical practice at the registered premises, in that there was:

- Failure to store Schedule 8 poisons in a Schedule 8 poisons safe;
- Failure to ensure secure attachment of a Schedule 8 poisons safe to the wall or floor;
- Failure to maintain prescription reception and counselling points fitted with privacy screens.

The proprietor was cautioned and required to develop and submit copies of written procedures for the management of Schedule 8 poisons at the pharmacy.

Case 2.

The proprietor was found to have failed to comply with the Act and/or there was a failure of good pharmaceutical practice at the registered premises in that there was:

- Failure to ensure that records of all transactions in Schedule 8 poisons used for opioid replacement therapy showed the true and accurate balance of each Schedule 8 poison remaining in their possession after each transaction;
- Failure to adequately label methadone solution held to prepare doses for opioid replacement therapy;
- Failure to maintain a pharmacy pharmacotherapy procedure manual detailing the systems in place at the pharmacy;
- Failure to maintain current editions of mandatory references;
- Failure to label dose administration aids with mandatory sedation warnings where required.

Several of the matters had been raised during a previous inspection.

The proprietor was reprimanded and required to develop and submit a copy of a pharmacotherapy procedure manual detailing the systems in place at the pharmacy.

Case 3.

The proprietors were found to have failed to comply with the Act and/or there was a failure of good pharmaceutical practice at the registered premises in that there was:

- Failure to ensure that records of all transactions in Schedule 8 poisons showed the true and accurate balance of each Schedule 8 poison remaining in their possession after each transaction;
- Failure to record transactions in Schedule 8 poisons as soon as practicable;
- Failure to comply with VPA Guidelines regarding storage and/or possession of keys to the Schedule 8 poisons safe.

The proprietors were cautioned.

Toni Riley
Chair